

ANNUAL REPORTS  
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of the

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

and of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

to the

KINGSWOOD

UREAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

for the

Year 1905.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH  
to the  
KINGSWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
of the SANITARY STATE of the DISTRICT under their CONTROL,  
for the YEAR 1905.

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Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to you my  
Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition, and Health  
of the Kingswood Urban District.

Physical  
Features and  
General  
Character of  
the District.

I. The Kingswood District which comprises an area  
of 1555 acres, and with an estimated population of 12,761,  
lies for the most part a considerable height above the  
sea-level, a fact which has always insured a more or less  
immunity from the severe Epidemics of Disease which  
prevail in low lying and marshy districts.

General  
Health.

II. The chief occupation of the inhabitants  
remains the same as hithertofore, viz., Bootmaking, Miners  
and Staymakers. A good proportion of the Staymakers  
and Bootmakers are home-workers, though not so many as  
in former years, and they now work under healthier con-  
ditions, than in times gone by. The house to house system  
of refuse collection has done away to a great extent with  
the unsanitary heaps which used to lie around their dwell-  
ings, also the supervision over the erection of new houses,  
and of the Sanitary accommodation, has been of considerable  
benefit.



The health of the District during the year has been on the whole decidedly satisfactory.

The death rate has been 13.4 per 1000 compared with the average of the last ten years which was 13.6 per 1000.

It would have been considerably lower, had it not been for a severe Epidemic of Measles which prevailed for the first half of the year, and which caused with Pulmonary complications a very high mortality among young children.

No other disease in an Epidemic form made its appearance.

Sewage  
and  
Drainage.

III. The Sewage System for the District which was commenced in February 1903 has been complete as far as the Conham section is concerned.

In this completed section over 600 houses have been connected up to the present time. The only complaints that have been made to me which refer to this section, have been regarding the offensive effluvia which emanated from some of the manholes, which were fitted with perforated tops, this was due in most part to the phenomenally dry summer and autumn, and consequently insufficient flushing of the drains.

Since the wet season set in, this nuisance has been almost altogether abated, a result due to the more efficient flushing of the sewers.

The House-drainage system is improving and it is to be hoped that most of the houses in the completed section will be connected up during the coming year and flushing tanks introduced as far as possible.





A. In the month of May a complaint was made to me regarding the pollution of the watercourse which runs through Jeffries Hill Bottom.

Accompanied by your Sanitary Inspector I visited Mr. Anstey's Watercress bed in Jeffries Hill Bottom and found it filled with sewage matter, conveyed by the watercourse which runs through it. I considered the watercress from this bed was unfit for human consumption under these circumstances. I ordered the bed to be thoroughly cleaned out, and as the sewage matter came chiefly from the slaughter house, the property of Mrs. Moss, I recommended that this be connected with the main sewer which runs close by. This was subsequently done and the nuisance thereby abated.

B. In the month of August a complaint was made regarding a nuisance then existing in a part of Hanham St. In connection with this I made the following Report "I have visited the place and found that the street has no sewer for a distance of some 140 yards, although two sewers cross the street about this distance apart. In all 17 houses are unconnected, 12 of which discharge refuse matter into the channels in the Street.

These channels flow to gratings of drains which discharge into the water course, which separates the Parish of Kingswood from the City of Bristol and in which within a short distance of each other 3 watercress beds are situated.

On the day of my visit the greatest amount of refuse matter appeared to come from the butcher's and fish shops both of which are on the left side of the street; and the smell arises from decomposing matter in the





channels, and the receivers at the head of the drains.

In my opinion this must of necessity continue to exist until a sewer is laid in, which as far as I am able to judge must be in the main street, with which the houses on both sides of the street may be connected.

For the present I recommend that the channels be frequently flushed and disinfected, until the Council decides upon the course to be adopted.

Scavenging.

IV. This has been done in a very satisfactory manner and the system has been extended in the West Ward.

Water.

V. The supply of water to the District has been sufficient, constant, and of good quality.

This considering the dryness of the Season has been very satisfactory.

A new filtering plant has been erected at the source of supply which has to a great extent removed the discolouration which was intermittently present in the water.

There has been no extension of mains in the District, 23 fresh houses have been supplied.

Some of the outlying houses in the District are still supplied from wells, I have received no complaints regarding these sources of supply nor has there been any disease traceable to them.

One sample of water from a well situated in the Centre of the District has been submitted to me for Analysis; I found it totally unfit for human consumption. I ordered the well to be closed, and the West Gloster water supply to be laid on.

Housing and  
over-crowding.

VI. 7 New houses have been built during the year. As a general rule the houses in the District are suitable



for the Artizan Class who occupy them.

2 Houses were closed as being unfit for human habitation.

Four cases of over-crowding were reported, these were promptly dealt with.

Factories  
Bakehouses,  
Dairies &  
Slaughter-  
houses.

VII. All these have been visited during the year and found in a fairly satisfactory condition.

It is to be hoped that in the near future all the factories in the District, will be supplied with efficient Lavatory accommodation.

As the Milk Supply to the District is for the most part from Rural Districts outside, it is obvious that no proper control can be exercised over the sources of supply, as regards the Sanitary surroundings of the Cow-sheds, hands of milkers, and Tuberculous Animals, and also as to the use which is made of so called preservatives.

Food.

VIII. No sample of food has been submitted to me for Analysis. The samples are taken by the Police and forwarded to the County Analyst.

Mortality.

The number of Deaths registered during the year from all causes was 171. This number estimating the population of the District at 12,761, gives a rate of 13.4 per 1000, which is about the average of the last 10 years.

The number of Deaths under 1 year was 43; this gives an Infantile mortality of 113.4 per 1000 births registered.

The number of births over deaths was 208.

The number of Deaths during the first half year



was 117, and during the latter half 55.

Had we not had a severe Epidemic of measles and sequelae, involving a high Infantile mortality the death rate would have been exceedingly low. Nevertheless our death-rate compared most favourably with the other towns of similar populations and industries.

Births.

IX. The number of births registered during the year was 379, consisting of 199 males, and 180 Females, which gives an average of 29.6 per 1000 of the Estimated population, which is slightly lower than that of the past ten years, which was 30.9.

Zymotic  
Diseases  
requiring  
Notifica-  
tion.

X. The notifiable infectious diseases during the year numbered 50, from which 4 deaths resulted. This is the lowest number since 1899, when only 30 were notified. The Zymotic death rate under this heading was 0.31 per 1000.

Small pox.

No case of this disease has been notified; last year we had five cases, all traceable to an imported case.

Cholera.

No case reported.

Diphtheria  
and  
Membraneous  
Croup.

Thirteen cases of Diphtheria and one of membraneous Croup were reported, with 2 deaths resulting, as compared with 11 last year, and no deaths.

Scarlet Fever.

34 cases were notified throughout the year, no deaths resulting. The disease assumed a mild form, attended with very few complications. This disease has become Endemic with us, a result due in my opinion, to the fact that mild cases occur, which are not notified, nor come under the notice of any Medical Practitioner.







This state of affairs will not be remedied until proper means of isolating infectious cases in this District are adopted.

In this District absence of Notification is due in some cases to ignorance, but I am convinced in most cases it is due to the fact that parents are very loth to report them, owing to the fact that it entails in most cases, a great pecuniary loss to the wage-earners, more particularly if members of the household are engaged in textile trades, i.e. waistcoat or stay making. And I must say that this is a very strong argument in favour of an Infectious Hospital, as no pecuniary grant can be given from any public body in such cases.

Enteric  
Fever.

Two cases reported, both of which proved fatal; one case was notified at the end of last year but death did not take place until the beginning of this year.

Erysipelas.

No case reported. Last year there were 8 cases.

Typhus Fever.

No case reported.

Relapsing  
Fever.

No case reported.

Continued  
Fever.

No case reported.

Puerperal  
Fever.

One case reported which recovered.

Last year 2 cases were reported, one of which proved fatal.

Our almost complete immunity from this generally fatal disease is a matter of great importance and shows the great benefit derived from the "Midwives Act", since it came into operation. The Act has been complied with in a very satisfactory manner throughout the District which is now well supplied with trained and Certified



Midwives.

The number of the old-time Midwives who are registered, and under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health is gradually decreasing, and prompt measures are taken in isolating them in any suspicious case.

Zymotic  
Diseases  
not re-  
quiring  
notifica-  
tion.

#### XI. Measles.

We suffered from an unusually severe epidemic of this disease during the first half of the year, which caused 17 deaths, resulting chiefly from Broncho-Pneumonia which was the principal complication attending it. I found it necessary in January to close the Hanham National Infant School, and Kingswood Wesleyan Infant School. Also in March the Kingswood Moravian Infant School, and Kingswood High Street Infant School; all for a period of 4 weeks. The Epidemic did not abate until the month of May. In 1904 there was no Epidemic, and only 1 death was recorded.

Whooping  
Cough.

This disease was generally prevalent in the first Quarter of the year, and was not of a very severe type. Only one death was recorded as resulting from it.

Chicken  
Pox.

A few cases of this disease appeared of a very mild type.

Epidemic  
Influenza.

Although this disease was prevalent throughout the year, it assumed in most cases a mild form - only one death resulted, that of a patient over 65 years of age.

Diarrhoea  
and  
Dysentery.

No deaths were recorded from these diseases. Autumnal Diarrhoea was entirely absent. These



diseases in previous years generally affected the Infantile Mortality considerably.

Enteritis.                   Eleven deaths are recorded from this disease 10 of which were infants under one year. It is to be regretted that more attention is not given by parents to the proper feeding of Infants, as there is no doubt that in our working-class districts, the high Infantile mortality is greatly due to the injudicious feeding of infants.

Rheumatic  
Fever.                   One death resulted from this disease.

Phthisis.                   16 Deaths recorded, 11 of which were between the ages of 25 and 65 years.

During the year all houses in which death was known to have occurred from this disease I have had fumigated, and I would strongly recommend that the system of voluntary Notification of this disease be adopted in this District as no doubt it has been proved that efficient fumigation of infected houses, has a deterrent effect on the spread of this dreaded disease.

Other Tuber-  
cular  
Diseases.                   Five deaths are recorded.

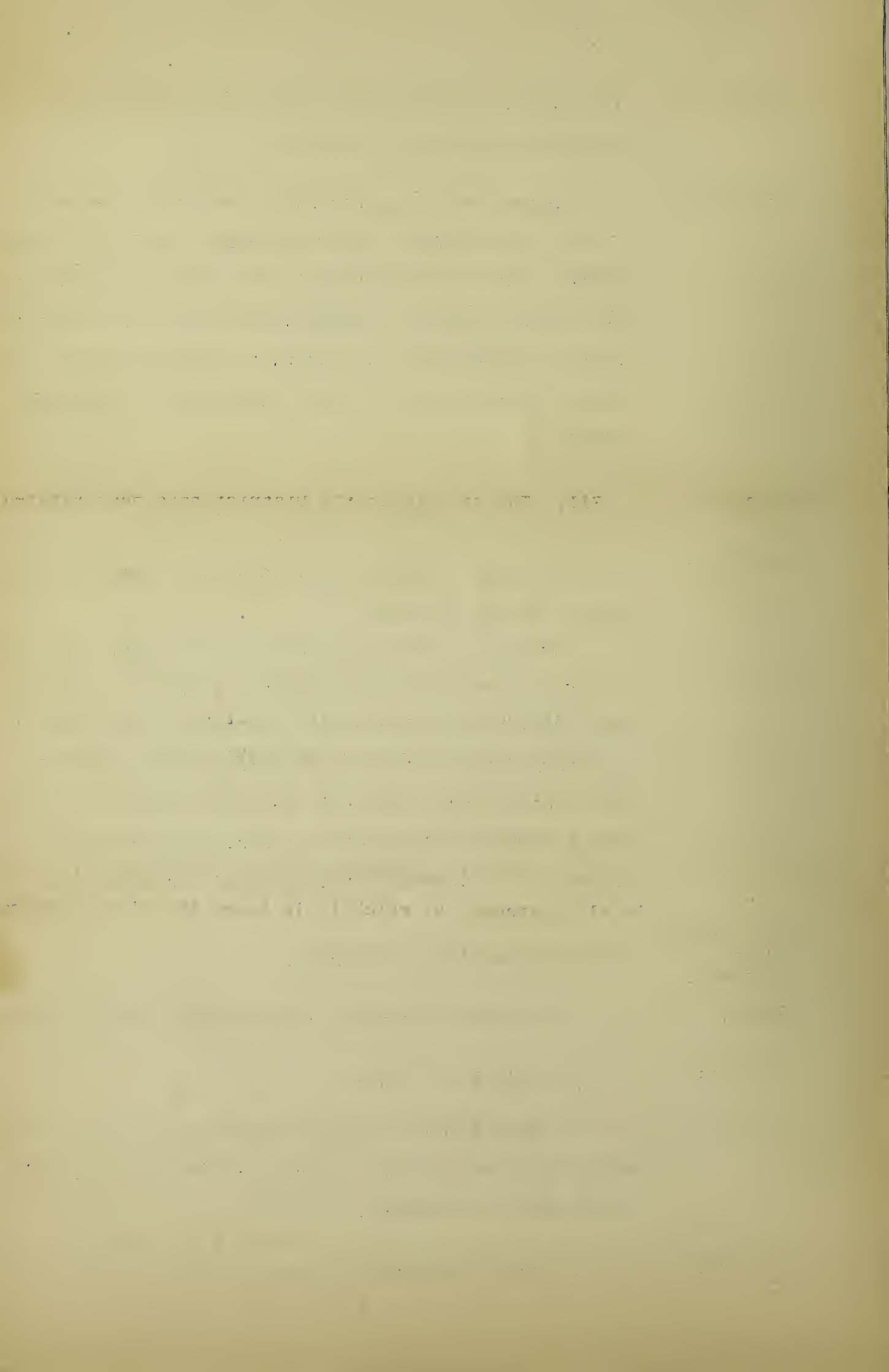
Cancer.                   Five deaths recorded, all occurring over 25 years.

Bronchitis.               10 deaths recorded.

Pneumonia.               27 deaths were recorded resulting from this disease, 23 of which were under 5 years, occurring chiefly as a complication of measles.

Pleurisy.               No death recorded.







Cardiac Diseases. 18 deaths were recorded from this disease.

Suicides. Two were reported.

Debility from Premature Birth. Three deaths recorded.

Apoplexy. 15 deaths were recorded, of which 14 were over 25 years of age - Deaths from this cause seem to be steadily on the increase in this District.

Nephritis. 2 deaths were recorded between the ages of 25 and 65 years.

Schools. XII. The schools in the District have been visited from time to time, special visits being made when infectious cases were localized; the sanitary conditions are in the main good.

New School. A New School accommodating 1000 pupils has been opened during the year, it is situated in Hanham Road.

It has been erected on admirable lines, and is thoroughly equipped with the most modern ventilating, and Sanitary systems.

Technical instruction is given on an extensive scale in all branches, by which it is hoped the rising generation will materially benefit.

I take this opportunity of testifying to the very efficient manner in which the Inspector of Nuisances has carried out his various duties; I have found him exceedingly painstaking and diligent, and consider him to be a most capable man for the position he occupies.

I append Tabulated Statements :- I. II. III. IV.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. J. PERROTT.



TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS of WHOLE DISTRICT,  
During 1905 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District.			
		Number	Rate <sup>x</sup>	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages	
				Num-ber.	Rate per 1,000 Births regis-tered.	Number	Rate <sup>x</sup>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1895	10,800	368	34	56	152.1	156	14.4
1896	11,000	359	32.6	58	161.5	176	16
1897	11,200	343	30.6	48	145.7	138	12.3
1898	11,400	375	32.9	50	133.3	150	13.1
1899	11,600	378	32.5	56	148.1	168	14.4
1900	11,800	388	32.8	50	128.8	181	15.3
1901	11,961	367	30.6	52	141.7	154	12.8
1902	12,161	326	26.8	46	141.1	176	14.4
1903	12,361	384	31.	34	88.5	166	13.4
1904	12,561	321	25.5	29	90.3	129	10.2
Averages for years 1895-1904	11,684	361	30.9	47.9	133.1	159.4	13.6
1905.	12,761	379	29.6	43	113.4	171	13.4

<sup>x</sup> Rates in Columns 4 and 8 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres.	1,555	Total Population at all ages	12,761
		Number of Inhabited Houses	2,566
		Average Number of persons per house	4.9



TABLE II.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a	b	c	d.
1895	10,800	368	156	56
1896	11,000	359	176	58
1897	11,200	343	138	48
1898	11,400	375	150	50
1899	11,600	378	168	56
1900	11,800	388	181	50
1901	11,961	367	154	52
1902	12,161	326	176	46
1903	12,361	384	166	34
1904	12,561	321	129	29
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904.	11.684	361	159.4	47.9
1905	12.761	379	171	43

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.						
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Cholera	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Diphtheria	13	.	5	6	1	1	.
Membranous Croup	1	.	1	.	.	.	.
Erysipelas	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Scarlet fever	34	.	12	21	1	.	.
Typhus fever	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Enteric fever	1	.	.	.	1	.	.
Relapsing fever	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Continued fever	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Puerperal fever	1	.	.	.	1	.	.
Plague	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Totals	50	.	18	27	4	1	.

Isolation Hospital only for Smallpox.







TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

Causes of Death. 1	Deaths in whole District at Subjoined Ages.						
	All ages. 2	Under 1 year. 3	1 and under 5. 4	5 and under 15. 5	15 and under 25. 6	25 and under 65 7	65 and up- wards 8
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	17	2	11	4	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and membran- ous croup	2	...	1	1	...	...	...
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(Typhus							
Fever (Enteric	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
(Other continued							
Epidemic influenza	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	11	10	1	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases	3	...	...	1	...	2	...
Phthisis, (Pulmonary							
Tuberculosis	16	...	...	1	4	11	...
Other tubercular di- seases.	5	...	1	4	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant di- sease.	5	...	...	...	...	3	2
Bronchitis	10	3	...	...	...	4	3
Pneumonia	27	11	12	...	...	3	1
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism )							
Cirrhosis of liver )	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	3	3	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart diseases	18	3	...	1	1	5	8
Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Apoplexy	15	...	1	...	...	8	6
Brights Disease	2	...	...	...	...	2	...
Rheumatic Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other causes	30	11	4	...	...	3	12
All causes	171	43	32	12	7	44	33

Figure 1 is a schematic diagram of the experimental setup. It shows a subject (represented by a stick figure) interacting with a computer monitor. The monitor displays a target (T) and a starting point (S). The distance between S and T is labeled as 'Distance'. The subject's hand is shown moving from S to T. The monitor also displays a 'Target' and a 'Starting point'.

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TABLE V.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 wks.	Total under 1-mth.	1-2 mths.	2-3 mths.	3-4 mths.	4-5 mths.	5-6 mths.	6-7 mths.	7-8 mths.	8-9 mths.	9-10 mths.	10-11 mths.	11-12 mths.	Total Deaths under One Yr.
All Causes: { Certified Uncertified	4	2	6	6	5	1	4	5	3	3	2	4	1	3	43 Nil.
Common Infectious Diseases: Measles														2	2
Diarrhoeal Diseases. Enteritis (not Tuberculous)					1					1		2			4
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh				2	1	1	1	1	1						7
Wasting Diseases: Premature Birth	2	1	3												3
Congenital Defects	2		2	1	1		2	1	1				1	1	3
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus				1	1										3
Convulsions		1	1					1	1		1				2
Bronchitis				2	1		1	2		2	1	2			4
Pneumonia					1		1	2							9
Other Causes					1										1
	4	2	6	6	5	1	4	5	3	3	2	4	1	3	43

(legitimate 379  
Births in the year(illegitimate nil

Population  
Estimated to middle  
of 1905.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages 171.

12761.





ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH for the year 1905,  
for the Urban District of Kingswood, on the administration of  
the Factory and Workshop Act 1901, in connection with  
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES and HOMEWORK.

1. INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	31	10	-
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	90	55	-
WORKPLACES	-	-	-
HOMEWORKERS' PREMISES	75	-	-
Total	196	65	

2 DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :-				
Want of cleanliness	50	50	-	-
Want of ventilation	3	3	2	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Want of drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Other nuisances	12	12	6	-
(insufficient	* 2	2	-	-
Sanitary accommo- (unsuitable or	* 7	7	-	-
dation ( defective	-	-	-	-
(not separate				
( for sexes				
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :-				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.101)	}	-	-	-
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss.97 to 100).				
Failure as regards list of out-workers (s. 107).				
Giving out work to (unwholesome be done in prem- ( (s. 108) ises which are (infected (s.110)				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (s.109).				
Other offences.				
Total	74	74	8	

\* Verbal Notices.





### 3. OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories:--	8	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	-	
Action taken in matters (Notified by H.M. referred by H.M. In- ( Inspectors. spected as remediable ( Reports (of action under the Public Health Acts, but not under the ( taken) sent to Factory Act (s.5) (H.M. Inspectors.	10	
Other	-	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :-		
Certificates granted during the year	-	
In use at the end of the year	-	
Homework :-	Number of	
List of Outworkers (s. 107)	List	Outworkers.
Lists received	64	3,500
Addresses of outworkers (forwarded to other Authorities (received from other Authorities	24	700
	20	300
Homework in unwholesome or infected premises :-	Wearing Apparel;	Other.
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (s. 108)	2	-
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises	30	6
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (s.110)	-	-
Workshops on the Register (s.131) at the end of the year	400	
Total number of Workshops on Register	400	

February 10th, 1906.

C. J. PERROTT,  
Medical Officer of  
Health.



FORM which Medical Officers of Health in the County of Gloucester are requested by the Sanitary Committee of the County Council to fill up for attachment to Annual Reports.

TABLE C.

KINGSWOOD URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.  
January 1906.

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. C. J. Perrott,

Sanitary Inspector, Elias Binding A.S.I., A.I.S.E., R.P.C. etc.

1. HOUSING.

(a) Number of Plans submitted	7
(b) " Houses built.	7
(c) " Water Certificates under Sec.6 Public Health (Water) Act 1878	-
(d) Number of Houses cleansed under Sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875	25
(e) Number of Houses closed under Sec.32 Housing of Working Classes Act 1890	2
(f) Number of House placed in habitable repair	5
(g) Number of houses demolished	1
(h) Number of cases of overcrowding abated	4

2. SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE.

(a) Has any application for a Loan been made?	Yes.
(1) Amount	An additional £4456.
(2) Purpose	For Conham Section.
(b) Number of Houses newly connected with sewers	251
(c) " W.C's. supplied with water	50
(d) " Earth Closets, Pail Closets or Improved Privies constructed	2
(e) Number of notices served to empty "Privy Vaults"	-

3. REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Has any change been made in the arrangements for the removal or disposal of house refuse?	An extension for collecting House refuse in the West Ward.
---	--

4. WATER SUPPLY.

(a) Has there been any change in the existing sources of supply?	No.
(b) Has any application for a Loan been made?	-
(1) Amount	-
(2) Purpose	-



(c) Number of new connections with public supply?	1
(d) Number of wells sunk, or improved sources of supply provided	12
(e) Number of wells closed	1
(f) Number of samples taken for examination	1

5. NUMBERS INSPECTED of EACH of the following:

(a) Common Lodging House	None in District.
(b) Slaughter Houses	56
(c) Bakehouses	37
(d) Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops	38
(e) Canal Boats	-
(f) Workshops	90
(g) Residences of out-workers	75

6. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

(a) Number in District	5 (?)
(b) Number of insanitary conditions dealt with	2
(c) Are the sources of water supply satisfactory?	Yes.

7. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(a) Number of cases visited and reported on	50
(b) Number of houses disinfected	50

8. ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Has any change in the existing conditions been made?	No.
If yes, what changes?	-

9. GENERAL.

(a) Number of complaints received	97
(b) Total number of nuisances reported	300
(c) Number of swine nuisances reported	35
(d) Total number of nuisances abated	298
(e) Total number of notices served	320
(f) Total number of statutory notices served	20
(g) Total number of summonses taken out	Nil.
(h) Total number of convictions	do.

10. BYE-LAWS.

Have any changes in, or additions to, the Bye-Laws been made?	No
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11. CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS of the DISTRICT.

- (1) A Steam Disinfector, etc.
- (2) Public Urinal.

12. ANY SUGGESTIONS of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH.

Voluntary Notification of Phthisis.  
Hospital for Infectious Diseases.





# SUMMARY of VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION of DISTRICT ESTIMATED to MIDDLE of 1905. 12,761.

	No.	Rate per 1,000.	Deaths (Cont.)	No.	Rate per 1,000.
Births	379	29.6	Measles	17	1.33
Deaths	171	13.4	Whooping Cough	1	0.07
Do. under 1	43 (b)	13.4	Diarrhoea (e)	Nil	
Smallpox	Nil		Zymotic (a)	22	1.72
Scarlet Fever	Nil		Phthisis	16	1.25
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	2	0.15	Cancer, Malignant Disease	5	0.39
Fever (d)	2	0.15	Enteritis (f)	11	0.86
			Respiratory Diseases (c)	37	2.89

(a) Includes Small-pox, Measles, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever and Diarrhoea.

(b) Estimated by measuring the proportion of deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 of the births registered during the same period.

(c) Includes Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy.

(d) Includes Typhus, Enteric Fever, and indefinite forms of continued Fevers.

(e) Under the heading of "Diarrhoea" are to be included deaths certified as from diarrhoea alone, or in combination with some other cause of ill-defined nature; and also deaths certified as from  
Epidemic enteritis;  
Zymotic enteritis;  
Epidemic diarrhoea. Summer diarrhoea;  
Dysentery and dysenteric diarrhoea;  
Choleraic diarrhoea, Cholera nostras (in the absence of Asiatic cholera).

(f) Under the heading of "Enteritis" are to be included those certified as from Gastro-enteritis, Muco-enteritis, and Gastric catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants, under the specific term of "Diarrhoea."

Deaths from diarrhoea secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.

(Signed) C. J. PERROTT,  
Medical Officer of Health  
for the District of Kingswood.



SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT  
for 1905.

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COUNCIL OFFICES,  
HIGH STREET,  
KINGSWOOD.

January, 1906.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1905, on the Health and Sanitary condition of the district.

In addition to dealing with work done in the district during the year, special reference will be made to Water Supply, Refuse Disposal, Drainage, Housing Accommodation, and other allied matters.

As my appointment only dates from April 1st, my report will deal chiefly with inspections made and action taken, from that date.

WATER SUPPLY.

The urban parts of the districts are supplied with the West Gloucestershire Company's water, and the rural portions by surface wells.

The supply from both sources was good and plentiful during the year.

As regards wells, some good work has been done in the cleansing of a fair number, and in laying on a town supply where obtainable.

One sample of well water was analysed and found unfit for





drinking purposes and a supply of the West Gloucester Company's was laid on.

No outbreak of Infectious Disease has been traced to water.

#### EXCREMENT and REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Except in the rural parts, water-closets are the rule, although a number of foul privies and pan-closets exist in the Urban districts.

There has, as usual, been a difficulty in disposing of the filth from these contrivances, and in some parts of the district nuisance has arisen from large deposits of this and similar material.

As regards old and foul closets no less than 251 have been converted to water-closets properly connected to public sewers, but much work has still to be done in this line.

Old foul closets and privies are dangerous to health, not only by their foul odours, but also from the fact that Typhoid Fever and Epidemic Diarrhoea may be, and often are, spread by the infectious particles being carried by the wind, flies, and other insects, on to food consumed by human beings.

In a large experience in a "privy" town par excellence, I have seen many undoubted cases spread in this way in both diseases.

In some places where pans have been substituted, the nuisance is quite as bad, with the added danger of frequent emptying; with its consequent spilling of filth.

No stone should be left unturned to abolish this system in all urban and semi-urban parts where possible.

#### SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewage of some of those houses within connecting



distance of the Conham Section, is treated at Conham, and is a difficult matter for Council to deal with.

But for a "settlement" in one of the filter beds, I believe they were working satisfactorily.

Although there are the usual complaints of bad smells from some of our sewers, I quite think they are efficient.

I think the new arrangement of the Council in replacing solid top, in lieu of the perforated manhole covers, a step in the right direction. This opinion is supplemented by appreciation of the Public in those parts affected.

The connection of sewer gas and Diphtheria which exists so strongly in the popular mind, is against the latest scientific researches.

Many inspections have been made of the drainage in rural parts of the district, which is, in many places, not satisfactory.

This applies more especially to the North, East, West and Mount Hill Wards.

The new sewerage scheme for Warmley, when completed, will lessen this evil.

#### HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

The provision of houses for the artisan population of the district is good, and, I think, sufficient.

The official supervision of houses being built, is undoubtedly well carried out.

In one point, marked benefit would accrue to the inhabitants if every new house had a concrete layer over the whole ground plan.

This is done in some cases, but seems specially necessary in houses built on clay which are in many cases damp, causing





a tendency to Rheumatic and Pulmonary affections.

There are no Common Lodging Houses registered in the district, which is a matter for congratulation, as they are in many cases a danger to the community as regards the introduction of Smallpox and other diseases into a district.

#### BAKEHOUSES.

I have inspected the Bakehouses, and found them in fairly good condition, although the limewashing was not quite carried out as it may be.

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The slaughterhouses are in fair condition, although some of the older ones are rather objectionable.

Weekly visits of inspection, on irregular days, are made in order to keep a closer supervision on the prevention of nuisances and on the quality of the Meat Supply.

All the same, I believe that the meat supplied in the district is, as a rule, above suspicion.

In no case was meat "unfit for food".

#### COWSHEDS, DAIRIES, and MILKSHOPS.

A number of cowsheds and dairies have been inspected.

The cleanliness of a cowshed is at best in any place a relative term.

The amount of filth that gets into average milk is really tremendous, and can be easily demonstrated where fine mesh strainers are used, as in large dairies.

This comes chiefly from the body of the cow, the hands of the milker, and the shed. I must say, however, as far as we know, it does not seem to do a great amount of damage, unless concerned, as some think, in the causation of Epidemic Diarrhoea





and Intestinal Tuberculosis.

The Register of Milkshops and Dairies is being compiled and brought up to date.

The vagueness of the law on the sanitation of cowsheds interferes very much with improvements as to Air space, Lighting, Ventilation etc., especially where cows are turned out each day.

The Water supply is often also a difficult matter to deal with in rural parts.

#### FACTORY and WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

As regards the above Act satisfactory progress has been made in carrying it out.

The registers of Factories, Workshops, and Outworkers will soon be in a complete state.

As far as has been seen the sanitary and hygienic conditions in the Workshops of the district are fairly good; the weakest point in a few cases being insufficient closet accommodation.

No underground bakehouses have been found to exist in the district.

Many cases of homeworkers have come under my notice and have been duly attended to.

#### SMOKE NUISANCES.

There has been no complaints of smoke-nuisances, but one complaint was made with respect to sulphuretted hydrogen being given off.

Dense black smoke will, of necessity, have a deleterious effect on the health of those near it, not to mention local



vegetation, but where metal annealing Furnaces are in use, it seems practically impossible to prevent it.

This fact has been recognised by the law courts in actions for smoke abatement in such cases.

#### SANITARY INSTITUTE CONGRESS.

This is a gathering of the great majority of the sanitary experts in the Kingdom, who are sent by nearly every district of importance to represent them, and to gain for them the latest information in all matters, relating to public health administration.

Amongst the matters dealt with are :-

Sewage treatment; Ventilation of Sewers; Factory and Workshop Act, 1901; Food poisoning; Infectious Disease; Prevention of Consumption; the Smoke Problem; Bacteriology as an aid to Diagnosis; School Hygiene, and innumerable other important matters.

For Health Officials to keep up-to-date, and this includes Sanitary Authorities, it is a necessity that these conferences be regularly attended.

#### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.:-

Under the Compulsory Notification Act there were notified 36 cases which is good, numerically, for the district.

##### Notifications in Districts of Infectious Disease.

Disease	North Ward	West Ward	East Ward	Mount Hill Ward	South Ward	Total.
Scarlet Fever	1	9	3	6	8	27
Diphtheria	-	4	1	1	1	7
Typhoid or Enteric	-	-	-	-	1	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	1	-	-	-	-	1
Small-pox	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	13	4	7	10	36





I am pleased to state that during the year no case of Smallpox has occurred, and at present everything, as regards Infectious Diseases, point to the healthy aspect of the district.

As only one death has occurred under the Zymotic heading, namely Enteric Fever, there is no need for a table of Zymotic Deaths in Wards.

Until the Medical Officers' Annual report is submitted the foregoing tables will show the very healthy condition of the district compared with other districts.

#### SCARLET FEVER.

The 27 cases of Scarlet Fever were scattered through the whole district.

Schools of various sorts and similar gatherings of children account to a great majority for the spreading of infection, as is the case in Diphtheria, Measles, etc.

In a district where about 90% of all cases are removed to Isolation Hospital, the only ones left at home, are as a rule, mild cases with plentiful means of isolation, and in very few cases does infection spread from there.

As emphasised in my monthly reports, however, the chief cause of spread has been those cases that have either been discovered late in the disease, or not at all.

It is plain that one missed case who attends school, etc. for several weeks and mixes broadcast with the public may cause scores of other outbreaks.

More especially from the fact that unless clothing is well washed with hot water, or otherwise disinfected, it will retain its infectious properties for months and years.

It is a very good plan to distribute bills on "Precautions



to be observed for the Prevention of Scarlet Fever etc." by asking Schoolmasters and mistresses to distribute one to each child to take home to its parents.

In the education of parents as to symptoms of Infectious Diseases, and precautions necessary, lies the road to the prevention of same.

### DIPHTHERIA.

During the year 7 cases of Diphtheria were notified.

A good deal has been said as to the cause of Diphtheria which is not at all in agreement with our present knowledge on the subject.

From my personal experience I only know of one way of Diphtheria spread, and that is by direct infection, chiefly from a patient, but in some instances from infected articles which have been in contact with a patient.

The popular idea, that one sniff of a sewer or drain opening is enough to cause the disease, is absurd, as the Diphtheria Bacilli do not thrive in sewage.

Continued breathing of sewer air will produce a sore throat, and also, perhaps therefore, a tendency to Diphtheria, if the infection come within reach.

How many houses are there with drainage system quite good, after a few years? I do not for an instant suggest that drains should not be absolutely tight, trapped, and properly ventilated, for, if not, they are injurious to health in innumerable ways, but they do not cause per se infectious diseases.

By the aid of Bacteriology we have discovered that many cases of what seem simple sore-throats are in reality diphtheria whereas many cases simulating clinical diphtheria are not so.



It is in these cases with no marked symptoms, and also in healthy throats which carry the bacilli, that the great danger of spread exists.

#### ENTERIC or TYPHOID FEVER.

Only one case of Enteric or Typhoid Fever was notified, and, unfortunately, resulted fatally.

It has always been my opinion from a very large experience of Enteric Fever that it is as Infectious as the other Zymotic disease, although the infection is spread in a different manner to some of them.

This doctrine has gradually been gaining ground during recent years, and it has been brought to a climax by the recent utterances of Professor Koch.

In his opinion "practically all cases, with a few exceptions, are due to infection from a previous one insufficiently isolated, and the disease can be exterminated if early diagnosis and universal isolation in hospital are adopted."

This statement is strongly supported in Birmingham, Liverpool, Metropolitan Boroughs and many other large towns whose returns show, where, by this means, Typhoid Fever was reduced to very small numbers.

If any type of infectious disease needs more the best nursing and attention, I am not aware of it.

It is practically universally held amongst experts that cases of this disease should not be treated in general hospitals being a direct danger to other patients, unless in a separate department.

#### ERYSIPELAS.

No notifications of this disease have been received.







### PUERPERAL SEPTICÆMIA.

There was one case of Puerperal Fever notified in the North Ward.

Fortunately, death did not occur, although this disease is generally fatal.

Full enquiries were made in the case and the midwife was isolated from her employment for one month.

The New Midwifery Bill it is to be hoped will eliminate all obnoxious members from this calling, and substitute more with a proper knowledge of antiseptic treatment.

### DISINFECTION of PREMISES and CLOTHING.

In conjunction with the Medical Officer I am about to re-organise the system of house disinfection after infectious disease, supplanting the antiquated and inefficient "sulphur burning" process, by the scientific and modern one of producing a damp atmosphere prior to the use of the Alformant lamp which evaporates solid Formalin tablets and so effect a thorough sterilization of air.

In a long series of Bacteriological examinations made a year or two ago on disinfection and disinfectants I found that sulphurous acid was most unreliable.

With regard to the disinfection of infected bedding, clothing and other articles, I would suggest the Council will seriously consider, when convenient, the advisability of adopting a steam disinfector.

The present process is somewhat behind the times, and one to which a certain amount of risk is attached.

In conclusion allow me to express my gratitude to all the members of the Council, both collectively and individually,



for their kindness and courtesy to me on all occasions.

This especially has impressed me, coming as a stranger into the district.

I have had the individual support not only of the Sanitary Committee, but of the whole Council.

I must also thank all my fellow officials for their kindness in helping me in every way possible, giving me the assistance that is absolutely necessary to one in a new position.

The usual statistical table will be found at the end of this report.

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. BINDING,

Inspector of Nuisances.



STATEMENT of WORK DONE - 1905.

Infectious Diseases	Number of notified cases enquired into	36
"	Number of suspicious cases enquired into	1
"	Number of houses disinfected	36
Houses	Number limewashed and cleansed	40
"	Number reported unfit for occupation	-
"	Number of cases of overcrowding abated	2
Drains	Number laid or relaid	291
"	Number tested	350
"	Number cleansed, trapped, ventilated	175
"	Number of insanitary lavatories etc. rectified	20
W. Closets	Number of additional provided	11
"	Number repaired, etc.	72
Dustbins (portable)	Number of new provided	-
Privies	Number converted to water closets	251
"	Number do. to Pan closets	3
Smoke Nuisance	Number of observations taken	2
Water Supply	Number of wells cleansed & repaired	12
"	Number of polluted wells closed	1
"	Number of samples taken	1
Workshops	Number inspected	90
"	Number contraventions remedied	30
Dairies and Cowsheds	Number of inspections	38
	Number of contraventions remedied	33
Slaughterhouses	Number of inspections	56
Keeping of Animals	Number of nuisances abated	35
Complaints	Number received and attended to	97
Legal Pro- ceedings	Number taken	-
Clerical Work	Number of letters, notices & reports	525

E. BINDING.







ANNUAL    REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

and of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

to the

KINGSWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

for the

Year 1905.

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